

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, historic structures, and other landmark areas throughout the state that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands in Washington provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation, and public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and

WHEREAS, shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation and active support of citizens, community, city and state officials, and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, land conservation builds awareness among urban dwellers with concerns about planned development, shared land use, preservation of wild areas and natural habitats, and the benefits realized by diligent restoration and enhancement of these areas; an alliance between private citizens, land managers and corporate leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

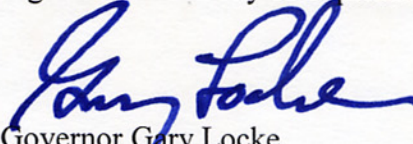
WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day, cosponsored by the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation, the Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, has become an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in this state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Locke, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2002, as

National Public Lands Day

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this observance.

Signed this 13th day of September, 2002


Governor Gary Locke

